

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 04223 241235Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 SAM-01 IO-14

NEA-14 DRC-01 /116 W

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O 241220Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4446

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 4223

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, GR

SUBJECT: SUGGESTIONS FOR PRESS SPOKESMEN

REF: ATHENS 4895

1. AT TODAY'S PRESS BRIEFING DEPARTMENT INEVITABLY WILL FACE QUESTIONS CONCERNING ITS JUDGMENT ON WIDE VARIETY OF GREEK ISSUES. IN ADDITION TO GENERAL STATEMENT REGARDING POSITIVE U.S. REACTION TO NEW GOG ALONG LINES REFTTEL, SUGGEST SPOKESMEN LIMIT RESPONSE TO LOW KEY REPLY INDICATING THAT IT WILL BE FOR NEW GOG TO SHAPE AND ANNOUNCE THE POLICIES IT WILL FOLLOW. SPOKESMEN SHOULD REMIND QUESTIONERS THAT GREECE UNDERGOING A MAJOR REORIENTATION OF ITS POLICIES AND THAT TIME WILL BE NEEDED TO ESTABLISH ITS COURSE.

2. ADDITIONALLY, SPOKESMEN SHOULD BE CONSCIOUS OF THE RESTRAINT AND GOOD FAITH WHICH GREEK MILITARY HAVE SHOWN IN CYPRUS CRISIS. DESPITE TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN-LED GOVERNMENT, MILITARY REMAINS CRITICAL ELEMENT IN NEW GOVERNMENT'S EQUILIBRIUM. IN ANY QUESTIONS ON ROLE OF MILITARY, WE SHOULD CITE RESTRAINT SHOWN BY GREECE DURING RECENT CYPRUS CRISIS. IF PRESSED FOR FURTHER COMMENT ON ROLE OF MILITARY IN NEW

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GOG, WE SHOULD STRESS ANNOUNCEMENT MADE JULY 23 BY THE PRESI-

DENT OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC OF GREECE: QUOTE IN VIEW OF
THE EXTRAORDINARY CONDITION OF THE COUNTRY, THE ARMED
FORCES DECIDED TO ENTRUST THE RULE OF THE COUNTRY TO A
POLITICAL GOVERNMENT. END QUOTE
TASCA

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATHENS04223
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D740200-0202
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740794/dcpdqaab.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 74 ATHENS 4895
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 MAY 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <24 FEB 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CHANGED> rws 20020205
Subject: SUGGESTIONS FOR PRESS SPOKESMEN
TAGS: PINT, GR
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005